

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 SES-02
SAA-01 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 /101 W
-----029378 101705Z /42

O 101446Z AUG 78 ZFD
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2473
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR US EG IS XF
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

SUMMARY: PRESS CONCENTRATES ON PLANNED DIPLOMATIC MOVES
BY EGYPT IN WAKE OF SADAT'S AGREEMENT TO GO TO CAMP DAVID
SUMMIT. EDITORIAL COMMENT ON TRIPARTITE TALKS IS EX-
TREMELY POSITIVE. EDITORIALS STRESS PRESIDENT CARTER'S
"COURAGEOUS" INVITATION TO CAMP DAVID SUMMIT HAS BROUGHT
U.S. INTO NEGOTIATIONS AS A FULL PARTNER. GUMHURIYYA'S
HODA TEWFIK, BASED ON "DIPLOMATIC SOURCES", POINTS OUT
THAT U.S. COMMITMENT TO PLAY FULL ROLE IS NEW FACTOR
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WHICH COMMITS PRESTIGE OF PRESIDENT CARTER TO PEACE
PROCESS AND CONFRONTS ISRAEL WITH SITUATION IT SOUGHT
TO AVOID. ONLY DISCORDANT NOTE IS MUSTAFA AMIN EDITORIAL
CHARGING THAT BEGIN IS STILL NOT SERIOUS ABOUT PEACE
AND THAT HE IS GOING TO SUMMIT ONLY TO REFURBISH HIS
IMAGE IN THE U.S. END SUMMARY.

1. SADAT TO SUMMIT. PRESS AUGUST 10 FOCUSSES ON EGYPTIAN DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IN PREPARATION FOR TRIPARTITE TALKS. HEADLINES DECLARE SADAT IS STOPPING IN PARIS ON WAY TO U.S. TO CONFER WITH GISCARD D'ESTAING. AKHBAR LEAD EMPHASIZES SADAT AGREED TO SUMMIT AFTER AMERICA DECIDED TO PLAY EFFECTIVE ROLE AND DEPICTS EGYPT AS BEGINNING AN ACTIVE DIPLOMATIC ROLE. SADAT REPORTEDLY WILL VISIT AN UNNAMED EUROPEAN COUNTRY ON HIS WAY BACK TO CAIRO. ACCORDING TO PRESS, DELEGATION WILL CONSIST OF DEP PM HASAN AL TUHAMI, CHEF DE CABINET HASAN KAMEL, AND FORMIN KAMEL (PRESS REPORTS SEPARATE STORY THAT KAMEL WILL ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON BEFORE PRESIDENT SADAT IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR SUMMIT).

2. U.S. ROLE HIGHLIGHTED. GUMHURIYYA RED BANNER HEADLINE IS "AMERICA PROMISED POSITIVE STAND". AKHBAR DECLARES THERE WILL BE IMPORTANT AMERICAN CONTACTS BEFORE THE SUMMIT IN ORDER TO NARROW THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SIDES. AMBASSADOR ATHERTON'S TRAVELS TO SAUDI ARABIA AND AMMAN AND QUANDT'S VISIT TO ISRAEL ARE FRONT PAGE STORIES. BRZEZINSKI IS QUOTED AS SAYING AMERICA PREPARES TO PRESENT "CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS" AT SUMMIT.

3. AHRAH EDITORIAL VIEWS CAMP DAVID SUMMIT AS EXPRESSION OF AMERICA'S ROLE AS FULL PARTNER IN THE PEACE PRO-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CESS, ADDING U.S. COULD NO LONGER REMAIN A SPECTATOR. EDITORIAL DESCRIBES SUMMIT AS NEXT STEP ON THE PROPER COURSE; IT IS NOT THE END OF THE ROAD BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE MERELY A RENEWED CONTACT WITHOUT SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES. SUMMIT IS PARTICULARLY WELCOME AT TIME WHEN HOPES HAD COLLAPSED OF "PUSHING" ISRAEL TO TAKE A WISE STAND IN THE PEACE PROCESS. AKHBAR EDITORIAL CALLS CARTER'S INVITATION "COURAGEOUS"; IT TAKES HEART IN AMERICA'S DECLARATION THAT PEACE IS NOT ONLY IN THE INTEREST OF MIDDLE EAST BUT IN THE INTEREST OF U.S. AND WORLD. EDITORIAL ASKS WHAT PM BEGIN'S ATTITUDE WILL BE, GIVEN HIS POSITION THAT ISRAEL'S SECURITY LIES IN ANNEXATION.

4. HODA TEWFIK ON U.S. ROLE. IN UNDOUBTEDLY OFFICIALLY INSPIRED COMMENTARY, HODA TEWFIK OFFERS FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT OF VANCE/SADAT MEETING. TEWFIK COMMENTS THAT THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE AND THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO PLAY A ROLE AS FULL PARTNER ARE NEW FACTORS, RESULTING FROM SADAT'S REFUSAL TO CARRY ON DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. THE FULL ROLE THAT U.S. NOW PROPOSES TO PLAY MEANS THAT ISRAEL HAS TO FACE A SITUATION THAT

SHE HAS BEEN TRYING TO AVOID. IN ADDITION, U.S. IS NOW COMMITTED TO PRESENTING PROPOSALS BASED ON ASWAN FORMULA. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS PUT HIS OWN POLITICAL AND PERSONAL PRESTIGE INTO THE PEACE PROCESS. ACCORDING TO TEWFIK'S "DIPLOMATIC SOURCES," CAMP DAVID DISCUSSIONS WILL BE A NEW ATTEMPT TO REACH A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, FOLLOWING THE FAILURE TO DO SO AT THE CAIRO CONFERENCE, THE JERUSALEM MEETING, AND DURING OTHER VISITS BY SECRETARY AND AMBASSADOR ATHERTON. TEWFIK CLAIMS SHE WAS TOLD BY FORMIN KAMEL THAT EGYPT'S GOING TO CAMP DAVID DOES NOT MEAN ANY CHANGE IN EGYPT'S POSITION REGARDING ENCROACHMENT ON LAND OR SOVEREIGNTY AND THAT U.S. HAS A STABLE POSITION WITH REGARD TO WITHDRAWAL,

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PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, AND THE REJECTION OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS. IF THE DISCUSSIONS FAIL, IT IS UP TO U.S. TO CONTRIBUTE PROPOSALS TO SAVE PEACE PROCESS.

5. ISRAEL. BEGIN'S REPORTED STATEMENT THAT VANCE

ACHIEVED EXTRAORDINARY SUCCESS IN HIS MISSION IS
PROMINENTLY REPORTED, ALTHOUGH AHAM LEAD HIGHLIGHTS
BEGIN'S STATEMENT AFTER QUANDT MEETING THAT THERE IS NO
CHANGE IN THE ISRAELI POSITION. ONLY DISCORDANT NOTE
ABOUT SUMMIT IS CRITICISM OF BEGIN BY AKHBAR'S
MUSTAFA AMIN, WHO CHARGES BEGIN WILL GO TO
U.S. NOT FOR SAKE OF PEACE, BUT TO CHANGE HIS "UGLY"
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IMAGE IN EYES OF AMERICAN PUBLIC. AMIN REPORTS EARLIER
CRITICISMS OF BEGIN, CALLING HIM INTRANSIGENT AND
ALLUDING TO HIS ALLEGEDLY NARROW VIEWS OF WHAT ISRAEL
NEEDS FOR SECURITY. AMIN CONCLUDES THAT EGYPT IS PRE-
PARED TO GIVE ISRAEL PEACE AND SECURITY, BUT NOT LAND
OR SOVEREIGNTY. EILTS

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TAGS: PEPR, US, EG, IS, XF
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